Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 16, 17 and 61. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

16. (Four Times Amended) An isolated human CXC Chemokine Receptor 3 (CXCR3) protein or functional variant thereof, wherein said CXCR3 protein or variant can bind one or more chemokines selected from the group consisting of IP-10 and Mig, and can mediate cellular signalling and/or a cellular response in response thereto, and wherein said protein or variant is encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a second nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of the complement of SEQ ID NO:1 and the complement of the open reading frame of SEQ ID NO:1 under high stringency wash conditions of 2X SSC, 0.1% SDS at room temperature for ten minutes followed by two washes in 1X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 65°C for thirty minutes and a final wash in 0.5X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 65°C for ten minutes.

17. (Three Times Amended) The isolated human CXCR3 protein or functional variant thereof of Claim 16, wherein said CXCR3 protein or variant can bind one or more chemokines selected from the group consisting of human IP-10 and human Mig.

61. (Three Times Amended) A fusion protein comprising a human CXC Chemokine Receptor 3 (CXCR3) protein or functional variant thereof, wherein said CXCR3 protein or variant can bind one or more chemokines selected from the group consisting of IP-10 and Mig, and can mediate cellular signalling and/or a cellular response in response thereto, and wherein said CXCR3 protein or variant is encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a second nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of the complement of SEQ ID NO:1 and the complement of the open reading frame of SEQ ID NO:1 under high stringency wash conditions of 2X SSC, 0.1% SDS at room temperature for ten